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**Advertising " ARUNDEL STREET.**

## LATEST TELEGRAMS.

lies in a critical position, and has probably sustained serious damage. Up to the present the Ministry of Marine has received no confirmation of the news.—REUTER.

PARIS, Feb. 6 (Later).—According to a later telegram from Dakar, the Melpomene was got off with the next tide without difficulty and without damage.—REUTER.

**IND OF THE HAMBURG STRIKE**  
HAMBURG, Feb. 6.—At a meeting of  
dockers held here to-day to vote upon  
the question of continuing the strike,  
the delegates sent by the Social De-  
mocratic party advised the men to

WHERE AS WILL REMAIN A WOOD-

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## OUR OMNIBUS

## PIPER PAN.

Mr. Albert Viaretti's project of a festival of English music in Rome at Easter, which fell through last year, owing to political troubles, is now on its way to fulfilment. Mr. Viaretti, whose mother is English, has almost completed arrangements whereby his Italian fellow-countrymen may hear in their own country some of the finest examples of British music adequately performed. The performances are fixed to take place at the Teatro Costanzi on April 20 and 22. Works by Sir Arthur Sullivan, Sir A. C. Mackenzie, Professor Stanford, Dr. Hubert Parry, and Mr. Frederick Cowen—all representative English musicians—will be included in the programme of Mr. Viaretti's excellent enterprise.

I hear that the musical section in Rome are greatly interested in the affair, and warmly support of the festival is well-nigh certain. Such a result is in every way desirable, both for the sake of art and Mr. Viaretti, who, in rendering this great service to British music, is running a risk which involves a sum of £2,000.

Saturday evening, Feb. 20, will probably witness the production at the Savoy Theatre of Sir A. C. Mackenzie's new comic opera. It is said that Mr. Burnand has so arranged his libretto of the work that the fun is equally divided between the two comedians, Mr. George Grossmith and Mr. Passmore. What visions of mirth arise at the thought of a performance in which both these masters of humorous acting are employed!

Arrangements for the Bournemouth Musical Festival, to be held in the Winter Gardens Pavilion in May, are now about complete. The principal work to be performed is Gounod's "Redemption," which will be conducted by Mr. August Mannes.

The programme of Mr. Mottl's first Wagner concert at Queen's Hall on March 16 will illustrate the development of the overture from the time of Handel to Wagner, a decidedly interesting selection. At another of the concerts the Choral Symphony will be performed, with a chorus of 200 voices specially brought from Leeds.

Accounts from Vienna state that the most wonderful of all prodigy pianists has been heard in the person of Paula Ssalit, a little maid of 10 years. It is said that not only is the child's playing marvellous, but her talent as a composer is great; some of her small pieces being compared to those of Schumann.

A warning against bicycling for violinists and pianists has lately appeared. It claims that grasping the handle-bar produces a hard, stiff skin, which results in inflexible joints and inadequate touch. But, surely it is only the bicycle novice who uses the handle-bars in such a manner. My friend, Mr. Wheeler, can say, of course.

The National Sunday League Music Society will give a performance of Haydn's "Creation" at Queen's Hall on Sunday evening, Feb. 7, in aid of the Indian Famine Relief Fund. The vocalists will be Miss Anna Williams, Mr. Hiram Jones, and Mr. Franklin Clive, and Dr. Churchill Sibley will direct the orchestra and chorus of 350 performers.

It is hoped that Madame Nansen, wife of the great explorer, may be induced to appear as a vocalist during her stay in London. She was a pupil of Grieg, and has a high reputation in her own country for her charming singing of Scandinavian songs. I believe that it is already arranged that Madame Nansen will sing to the Queen at Windsor.

Our talented young English pianist, Miss Muriel Elliott, has made a great success in Berlin, where she has recently given an orchestral concert and two pianoforte recitals.

Signorina Giulia Barrogli has been singing with Miss Anna Williams, and has been engaged for the Chester Musical Festival, when she will sing in "Elijah," Dr. Vrak's "Stabat Mater," and other works.

Madame Adelina Patti has accepted an engagement to appear at one of the Philharmonic Society's concerts. Cannot the directors induce the great cantatrice to sing something a little fresher than her usual hackneyed operatic arias.

It appears that Miss Rina Allerton's fiancé is not Lord Ross, but Lord of Pitcairney simply, the earl of the Rosses, of whom he is the last male descendant, being now extinct.

The Children's Orchestra will give a concert on Tuesday afternoon, March 9, in aid of the Indian Famine Fund. The Duchess of Teck has promised to be present on the occasion.

## BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

The commonest of our finches, with the exception of the house-sparrow—which, perhaps, I ought to state belongs to the finch family—is the greenfinch, and, although it is not a good vocalist nor a very great ornament to a cage bird, it is a charming pet, and is capable of being taught many amusing tricks. It is the greenfinch that one usually sees going through a variety of performances in company with cats, white mice, and parakeets on the street barrow, and, were they not apt pupils, the tuition necessary for such tricks would involve a great amount of labour and patience on the part of their trainers, which, I am afraid, in every case would not be forthcoming.

The greenfinch in a wild state is, like the chaffinch, very impatient as regards choice of food; in fact, it eats whatever is the most plentiful, be it berries, seed, fruit, or insects. In captivity any of the seeds usually given to finches, such as hemp, rape, turnip, plantain, linseed, canary seed, &c., will be found to its liking, but should be varied as much as possible, and green stuff given ad libitum. It is best to keep this bird separate in a cage, and not allow it to mix with others in an aviary, for, being of a rather quarrelsome disposition, it will often create strife in an otherwise peaceful community. Sand and water are necessary adjuncts to its proper treatment in captivity.

The agriculturists of some of the

Southern States of N. America, according to a newspaper cutting, recently forwarded to a valued correspondent of the P. M. a number of the ravages of the ravenbird in their plantations, and, finding that gunshots fail to scare the birds away, have hit upon a rather novel plan of ridding their preserves of the pest. The birds are very voracious, and about harvest time they get so excessively fat that they find it difficult in flying. The inhabitants therefore put out their roosting place, and, arming themselves with a long birch fall and a torch-light, invade this rendezvous at night. The light so bewilders the birds that they are easily knocked down by the fall. So numerous are they that a few minutes of the siege suffice to fill the bags or sacks brought by the invaders, who, on account of the bodies being in great demand as food, easily dispose of them in the markets for a good price.

One of the most interesting animals at the present time in the Zoological Society's collection is the ounce, or snow-leopard, which arrived at the gardens in February, 1894, and since that time has remained in remarkably good health. Before it came into the possession of the society this animal was kept as a pet by a lady in India, where it was tied up in the garden during the day and let loose inside the house during the night, when, as a rule, it slept on its mistress's bed. It was a most amusing pet, and never



THE OUNCE, OR SNOW LEOPARD.

showed the slightest signs of ill-temper. The ounce is a little larger than the leopard, and its tail is longer, and of a lighter colour. Its tail, too, is longer than that of the leopard, and much more bushy along its entire length. Only one specimen of this animal has been exhibited in the Zoological Gardens—viz., in 1891—but it survived its arrival in March of that year. It was the first of the snow-leopard that ever reached England alive.

It is just on a year ago that the committee who recommended this order to have all dogs licensed within the area under their control, and it was only a day or two ago that the committee which recommended this order could see their way to advising the council to relax it. During the year many thousands of dogs have been captured, and the police courts have been kept busy in dealing with the summonses issued in consequence of the order. The animals were taken to the Dogs' Home, and the unclaimed ones were either destroyed or sold. If the looked-for result of stamping out rabies has not been altogether attained, the order has at least had the effect of ridding the streets of many poor half-starved and miserable brutes which made one's head ache to look at. In future it will only be necessary for the dog to bear on its collar the name and address of its owner.

The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens during the week ending Feb. 2 include a black lemur, a kinkajou, a white-backed piping crow, a monkey from West Africa, a Patas monkey, and a red-eyed ground finch.

## THE ACTOR.

The event of the week in the theatrical world—apart, of course, from the production of "The Daughters of Babylon"—is the more or less sudden death of Charles Harris. I say more or less sudden, because it was known that he was seriously ill, and that this final attack was but one of many others which had rendered his health so precarious of late years. It is long since I have seen him look really well, and I believe, when on the boards, directing the production of a piece; nor was his manner of the stage what would be called "genial." But he was very popular, for all that, and as a "producer" of spectacular pieces he will be difficult to replace.

So the promoters of the Nelson play at the Avenue have fixed at last upon the date for the premiere, and, moreover, have decided finally on a title. This is to be, not "The Enchantress," but "Nelson's Enchantress," which is much more explicit, of course, but not so poetical. Indeed, "Nelson's Enchantress" strikes me as positively prosaic. Could not something better have been hit upon? I see the fair authoress described as "the step-daughter of a retired rear-admiral, and the wife of a gentleman well known in society." But in which direction will make it easy to identify her!

"A new play by Jerome K. Jerome"—the phrase has a pleasant ring about it, and makes one hope it is true that a farce by the name of "The Greenfinch" is to be the next thing at the Globe. By the time these lines appear in type the arrangement may have been definitely made, and if so I shall personally be glad, for I have always liked Mr. Jerome's work for the stage, and especially that inadequately-appreciated piece, "Old Lamp for New," in which Miss Cissy Graham played so cleverly.

And it is really the case that we are to have, by and by, at the Prince of Wales's, a comic opera properly so-called? In other words, is "La Poupee" to be produced at the theatre? It would seem that the management are in earnest in their desire to do justice to the musical part of the production, for they have engaged, it is understood, Mr. Courtice Pounds and Mr. Norman Salmond, both of whom are vocalists of par excellence. The Pounds has not long returned from a colonial engagement, and his rendition will be welcome to his many admirers.

And tragedy, too! We are to have tragedy! Or, to speak more correctly, Birmingham is to have, for it is at the hardware capital that "The Alchemist," a tragic play by Mr. Osmond Shillingford, will be first produced. It will be performed by the present Haymarket company, and should have all the advantage of good

acting. If it is a good play, it will be liked, though tragic. There is a public for everything that is good.

Talking of comic opera, I am sorry, as a Londoner, to see that Miss Florence St. John is going on tour with "The Little Genies." I rather begrudge her to the provinces. She ought always to be in town, and all ways engaged in comic opera, for which she has a brilliant gift. Here, too, is Miss Marie Tempest, an admirable vocalist, thrown away upon so-called musical comedy. She, too, ought to be at the head of a comic opera theatre.

A contemporary suggests that the proposed new theatre in or off Regent-st. should be christened the Prince's or the Queen's. The Queen's, if you like—very certainly, the name would be especially appropriate if the theatre were to be built this year. But "The Prince's," as that we have already a Prince of Wales's; there would be endless confusion between the two.

## OLD IZAAK.

The weather has upset all calculations, and fishing prospects are anything but bright. The Thames for the time being is quite out of order, and until a spell of fair weather sets in very little is likely to be done, except by experts.

At Staines chub up to 2lb. have been taken, and at Datchet Mr. G. H. Shepherd, fishing with John Keene secured one of 4lb. Mr. Gunn had a handsome chub of 3lb. 10oz. from Kingston Court, and have been strongly evidence. J. Johnson and N. Bolton have each had some excellent perch, John Knight one roach, among others, scaling 1lb. 6oz., and F. Perdue one of 1lb. 10oz. The bank anglers at Kingston also appear to have done well of late. Chub scaling up to 4lb. are reported from Henley, and at Pangbourne one of 3lb. has been taken by Mr. R. Bradford, and three Jack scaling 14lb. 1oz. together by Mr. J. E. Evans. The two latter takes were shown to the Piscatorial Society on Monday evening.

Lea anglers have done better of late, but conditions are entirely against sport for the next few days. The most noteworthy incidents are the taking of a 10lb. jack from the Forty Guinea Water, and some good sized chub at Dobb's Weir.

The Arun has been out of order, but a few wary anglers have managed to secure fish. On Sunday last an angler belonging to the Central Association had nearly 20lb. of roach, bream, and perch, and a Chaffinch Deeply of 10lb. 10oz. from the river. The latter was taken by that association for the exclusive use of its members.

The Preservation and Restocking Fund Committee met at the Foresters' Hall on Friday next, by which time it is hoped all contributions will be in hand. The fund apparently will not fall much short of last year, but means must be found to lighten the labour and uncertainty attending the collection, and that every club subscriber. Much more must be done in the way of restocking and preserving, if sport in the Thames and Lea is to be maintained and improved, and this cannot possibly be done without more pecuniary aid than is at present forthcoming.

The Piscatorial Society had a splendid meeting on Monday last at the Marlborough Restaurant on the occasion of the reading of Mr. T. Crumple's paper on "Fishing in the Eastern Counties," which was largely illustrated by lantern views, many of which were specially lent by the Eastern Railway Company. Mr. Brunton presided in his usual genial manner, and the room was crowded with anglers, members of nearly all the leading clubs being present.

The Thames river-keepers' annual dinner comes off at the Mitre Hotel, in the Strand, on Friday, Feb. 12, at 6 p.m., when Ald. Alfred Nuthall (president T.A.P.S.) will occupy the chair. Visitors desirous of joining the merry party can obtain tickets (3s. each) of Mr. W. H. Brougham, secretary, of the Eastern Railway, or of Pownall Gardens, Hammersmith, and be sure of an enjoyable evening. Some of the most talented anglers in the country are expected to be present.

The Midland Angling Society spent a very lively evening on Tuesday last on the occasion of their 13th annual dinner, held at their headquarters, the Clarendon Hotel, Millman Park, under the management of their president, Mr. T. Swinerton. With an excellent dinner provided by their host, Mr. S. Renault, a menu card specially designed by Mr. H. W. Lane, and any quantity of musical talent, nothing was wanting to ensure success. The toasts of the society, president, and host, were all received, and Mr. H. Stockdale, hon. sec., responded very warmly received. Dr. A. C. Tucker, "Old Isaak," and Mr. A. R. Matthews were among the visitors present.

A Tonbridge correspondent sends me the comments of a local paper upon the recent capture of an otter in that neighbourhood. I am no advocate of the extermination of any animal, and to that extent can even sympathise with the writer's views. It will, however, be new to all anglers to learn that the otter is not an enemy to the fish, but a good friend to the weakly and diseased fish, and "thus preserving a strong stock to withstand the deteriorating influences of sewage and chemical pollutants in rivers and streams." I am inclined to agree with Isaac Walton rather than with the writer quoted, and am always glad to hear of the capture of these "villainous vermin," whose mischievous depredations are universally known.

The Central Association delegate meeting held at the Bedford Head, Covent Garden, on Monday last was presided over by Mr. T. Goodwins, in the unavoidable absence from illness of their esteemed president, Mr. C. A. Medcalf. A letter from Sir Wm. Birt (G.E.R.) thanking the association for their congratulatory vote, was read, and entered upon the minutes. The Forest Gate Piscatorial Society was enrolled, and applications from several other societies desirous of joining the Central were received. The amalgamation proposals were discussed, and very wisely rejected.

The Central Association was never more respected than now. It has issued 600 additional tickets during

the year, nearly all the leading clubs are upon its register, and it has nothing to regret or to fear while it continues to work for anglers as it has hitherto done. The waters it rents are of the best. It has gained strength year by year, and will no doubt in time find all anglers in its general embrace. There is ample room for both associations at present, and the fraternity benefits by their existence.

## GENERAL CHATTER.

Until the middle of January, furies were in despair. Owing to the exceptional mildness of the winter, their goods remained on hand, and it is to be feared that this lack of business has done more to ruin the trade than the use of much profane language. I am informed, however, that one of the trade has been so lively when Jack Frost laid his icy hand on our noses, that the demand for furs became so great, that the dealers, while coaldealers rejoiced greatly at the increased consumption of black diamonds. Let it not be said, then, that severe weather brings no one any good, let alone the general purification of the urban atmosphere which results therefrom.

When travelling by bus the other day I made acquaintance with a very unusual accident. All of a sudden, a spoke in one of the front wheels snapped with a loud report, the fragments falling into the conveyance. The driver, however, did not seem to be concerned, and the passengers dismounted through fear of the injured wheel collapsing. Londoners are easily scared by any danger out of the common, whereas it is a standing source of wonder to the country cousins that the light-hearted Chaffinch dodging through vehicles as if he would not much mind being run over.

A dissenting divine down in Lancashire has just made public the brilliant discovery that English society can only be saved by an infinity of speechifying, lecturing, and sermonising. "Those," he said, "who could mould public opinion by their powers of speech would become the saviours of society." In my humble opinion, the remedy would be far worse than the disease. There is not much the matter with society so far as I can see, whereas a permanent and windy talk would be pretty certain to fill our lunatic asylums to overflowing. For my own part, I should much prefer the gas to be applied to a good many speakers I met of—especially Parliamentary ones, and the nuisances who infect their verbosity on guests at public dinners.

For one clever speech, which gives to listeners something to carry away for future thought, at least a score are delivered which afford pleasure to none but the orators themselves. It is much the same with pulpit eloquence; really good preaching is out straight without waste of words, it is becoming more and more rare. In one instance that has come to my knowledge, a clergyman much afflicted with verbosity was entreated by his churchwardens to practice moderation and brevity. He replied with a pleasant smile, "Would that I could be hiding my talent under a bushel!"

Numerous letters reach me weekly, each warmly recommending some particular method of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee. I notice that almost every writer specifies a scheme by which the class to which he himself belongs would be benefited. Selfishness? Not at all; it is merely the consequence of feeling where the shoe pinches each individual wearer. Thus, in my case, it would be most pleasant to celebrate the jubilee by knocking off work for a month or two, without loss of income. Nor do I make the slightest doubt that if this proposal were put to the vote, an enormous majority would prefer it to all other schemes.

That great financial institution, the National Provincial Bank of England, has just done a generous and gracious thing. Without any sort of pressure, the directors have presented to every member of the vast staff a bonus of 5 per cent. on their respective salaries, in recognition of those valuable services by which the bank has attained its present position. The shareholders may depend upon it that this gift will bring its own reward in increased prosperity.

An obliging correspondent at Victoria, British Columbia, asks me to caution those who are thinking of emigrating to that remote colony. He says that the country is a very lately discovered goldfields, the labour market has become extremely congested, with the result of forcing down wages almost to starvation point. Thousands of willing workers are said to be out of employment, nor is there much chance of improvement until the mines are more fully developed. All that tends to support the counsel I proffered last week to intending emigrants, that they should try their fortunes in Ontario before going on to British Columbia.

## WILL WORKMAN.

I must say I have not much faith in Royal Commissions or Parliamentary Committees of any kind, but still I am very glad to see that the President of the Board of Trade has appointed a committee to "inquire into the existing system of ventilation of tunnels on the underground railways of the metropolis," for after all it is said and done I suppose even a committee is better than nothing at all, and something ought to have been done in the matter years ago.

I am one of those unfortunate individuals who are of necessity obliged very often to travel on the Underground, and my experience of it is that it is a very uncomfortable and a very hot place. So far as I am concerned, it frequently discharges a most important function, to wit, the cleaning of a congested pipe stem. But then I am only a masculine thing, and do not realise the advantages of feminine articles of attire. It was last week, however, that I learned for the first time that the useful article could be made a means of detaching a Dunlop pneumatic outer cover. I was enjoying an afternoon spin, when I discovered a solitary lady cyclist examining her front tyre carefully. "Thanks," she said, "much, but I am quite used to it," was the reply, and almost before I could advance a step, she had slipped the wire into the centre of the rim, and

taking a hairpin out of her golden locks, was levering the wire over the rim with the top of it. I went on my way philosophising that if the days of olivary are past it is only because women are so preposterously independent.

There is a lot of talk just at present, both in and out of Parliament, about schools, both board and voluntary, and I often wonder what the board schools are for—that is, what they are formed to do and what not to do. I always understood what we first had them for, and that was to give our children a good, plain, substantial education that would fit them for the sphere of life in which they were likely to move, teach them above all to read, write, spell, and do arithmetic well. I never dream that the Board Schools were in any way connected with cooking and laundry work, especially as far as the boys were concerned, much less that they would be in any way connected with teaching adults tailoring.

And yet we find that last week a motion to teach boys cooking and laundry work was only defeated by one vote by the London School Board, and, as far as the tailoring is concerned, it is actually in operation, and, strange to say, above all places in London, at the Gravel-lane Board School, Houndsditch, right amongst the sweaters and pauper alien tailors, who, we are told (and the reason the classes were started there) "can as a rule only do a minute portion of their dress. Some are balsters, others pressers, others machinists, and the idea is to teach them to make a garment right out."

In other words, or rather in plain English, these classes are formed to help the alien immigrant to compete on better terms with the native worker, and this is to be done, if done at all, out of the rates. I am glad to see the School Board Committee has up to now declined to recognise these classes, and that is the case, on whose authority were they started? That's what I want to know.

## MR. WHEELER.

Those who went far afield on wheels last week must have qualified the bitter cry. For a downright lough of despond come to mind to roads when a hard frost has broken up and two inches of snow has melted. Wearily I toiled out of town last Sunday, realising how ineffectual even fixed roadster mudguards are under such circumstances. I was under such circumstances, I was heart-breaking, while the Blythe road, between Ditton and Esher, was rim deep with liquid mud. Few and far between were the cyclists who were wont to bustle along the old Portsmouth highway. It is in times like these that the woman cheers him along by thinking of warm May Sunday mornings, when, through sheer exuberance of spirits, he wildly dashes up hills to work off superfluous energy.

Some men in this life never let an opportunity slip when one offers itself. While ploughing my way down Esher Hill, on to the road to Cobham, I noticed a horse and trap some 200 yards ahead of me. Holding on to the wheel-guard of the dogcart was a cyclist. He was sitting comfortably while being towed along, enjoying the scenery and chatting with the driver. By a kind of desperate exertion I overhauled the party and, to my delight, found the charioter to be none other than mine host of the popular cyclist house, the White Lion of Cobham. I affectionately grasped his other wheel-guard, and so reached my destination in a very comfortable manner. This is a tip worth remembering, always provided you find your horse and trap to hand.

The authorities that be at the War Office are no doubt impregnable, so far as criticism goes, but they have a chance to read "The Cyclist" of last week, they might gather many hints and take to heart the bill of indictment which a writer in that journal brings home to them. Only last week articles were published in many journals on the new regulations concerning the cyclist, and attached to the French Army. Here, in England, cycling first grew popular; English made cycles are still the most celebrated all the world over; in the early days, English racing men were always at the top of the ladder. And those who remember the "gumby" man of 1867, and saw the scratch bicycle brigade drawn up on parade, know that military cycling made its first bow to the world in this country. I must confess to agreeing most heartily with "The Cyclist" that, when the next year comes, the "gumby" man of 1867, "inactivity of our War Office will be very clearly demonstrated."

Now that the two Varsity crews have made up, and serious training has commenced, many cyclists, who take a keen interest in the annual race, will be riding up to the University camp, to watch the practice of the crews. While watching the Dark Blue eight swinging down stream last week I could but smile at the changes which time brings about. Three years ago the undergrad, who mounted a bicycle was considered no class at all, and was looked upon as a "gumby" man. Now, however, not only the crews cycle down to the barges, but even the best known coaches are seen on wheels. Given a fairly good tow-path, a bicycle is a capital mount from which to watch the crews at work. The excitement of the moment, however, must not carry the rider away, as occurred once or twice to cycling "coaches" during the Henley training of last year. I remember well last July seeing the captain of a well-known rowing club ride straight over the bank and tumble head over heels into the river. The best of the joke was that his last direction to his charges was "Eyes in the boat," the next moment he had disappeared into the river, bicycle and all.

There is a saying, I believe, among women that the common, or garden, hairpin can be put to something more than one use. So far as I am concerned, it frequently discharges a most important function, to wit, the cleaning of a congested pipe stem. But then I am only a masculine thing, and do not realise the advantages of feminine articles of attire. It was last week, however, that I learned for the first time that the useful article could be made a means of detaching a Dunlop pneumatic outer cover. I was enjoying an afternoon spin, when I discovered a solitary lady cyclist examining her front tyre carefully. "Thanks," she said, "much, but I am quite used to it," was the reply, and almost before I could advance a step, she had slipped the wire into the centre of the rim, and

braided pattern in combination with the ribbed serge is especially good.

## MADAME.

As yet there are not any very pronounced alterations in fashions to record, although there are rumours of coming changes as the season advances. Skirts continue moderately regulated according to the occasions for which they are intended. Sleeves are full in the upper part, fitting tightly to the arms from a little below the shoulders. The top fulness is arranged in various pretty ways, the round double puff being much in favour. Tailor-made costumes in coat and skirt style frequently appear with plain coat sleeves quite devoid of any extra fulness on the shoulders.

Party frocks for girls from 12 to 15 are almost invariably made high to the throat. This is decidedly a becoming as well as a sensible fashion—a



low-cut bodice seldom looks well at that age. The illustration shows a charming evening frock for a girl of 15. It is of pale blue nun's veiling, with a pointed yoke of pale pink silk covered with cream guipure. The bodice is set in full gathers to the yoke, the waist fulness being kept in by a seam of pink ribbon, fastening at the side. The neckband and shoulder bows are also of pink ribbon.

Open-fronted coats promise to be as popular as ever this season. The illustration shows a stylish costume of dark green cloth. The skirt is



plainly made, and cut to walking length. The coat turns back at the bust with pointed revers. The sleeves are plain coat shape. The revers and cuffs are braided with narrow black and gold braid. The fronts of the coat are trimmed at the outer edge with small gilt buttons. The vest is a full gathered front of dark red silk.

I came across a very nice and simple make of skirt the other day. The breadths are so arranged as to have the correct close fit over the hips, with a moderately wide foot. The front and sides are plain, the fulness at the back falling gracefully in rounded folds. This skirt can be cut from a 4-yard length of double width material; it would make up nicely in any soft woollen fabric. Some of my readers may possess a 4-yard remnant of cloth or serge gleaned at the sales. They could not do better than make it into a skirt of this description.

A pretty fashion for gowns in black material is to have the entire front of the bodice and the high neckband of cloth in some pale shade of colour, or, better, to watch the practice of the crews. While watching the Dark Blue eight swinging down stream last week I could but smile at the changes which time brings about. Three years ago the undergrad, who mounted a bicycle was considered no class at all, and was looked upon as a "gumby" man. Now, however, not only the crews cycle down to the barges, but even the best known coaches are seen on wheels. Given a fairly good tow-path, a bicycle is a capital mount from which to watch the crews at work. The excitement of the moment, however, must not carry the rider away, as occurred once or twice to cycling "coaches" during the Henley training of last year. I remember well last July seeing the captain of a well-known rowing club ride straight over the bank and tumble head over heels into the river. The best of the joke was that his last direction to his charges was "Eyes in the boat," the next moment he had disappeared into the river, bicycle and all.

The bodice is a tight-fitting shape, the front being made all in one piece of fine smooth-surfaced cloth in a bright shade of cardinal red. It is completely covered with a handsome flowing pattern in narrow black silk cord. This sobers down with good effect the somewhat bright colour of the cloth. The tight-fitting sleeves, with full round puffs on the shoulders, are finished at the wrists with pretty turned-back cuffs of the braided cloth.

The plainly-made skirt is a little longer than ordinary walking length. It is cut to perfection, the fulness being kept to the back in close pleats. A panel of the coloured cloth is introduced at the left side; commencing rather wide at the foot it gradually narrows to a mere point at the waist. The deep waistband is of folded black satin. The effect of the bright coloured smooth-surfaced cloth with its rich

Floral headgear is rapidly making its appearance. I interviewed some wonderful hats and bonnets at a fashionable milliner's this week. One hat especially struck me, not exactly with admiration, but with wonder. It is a high-crowned broad-brimmed shape of coarse straw, the colour of green. A broad band of pale blue ribbon goes round the crown, with upright bows of the same ribbon at one side, mixed with bunches of violets. Yellow daffodils and white narcissus, with black buttercups, trim the other side.

**DOCTOR FINED FOR CRUELTY.** Dr. McKillop, of Grosvenor-st., Blackheath, appears at an adjourned summons at Greenwich, for causing a horse to be cruelly worked in an unfit state. Mr. Colam prosecuted, and Mr. Griffiths defended. The horse was drawn by the doctor's carriage when it was stopped by an officer of the S.P.C.A. When before the court last week one veterinary surgeon said the animal was working in pain and another expressed a contrary opinion. The matter was then referred to Prof. McQueen, fellow of the College of Veterinary Surgeons, who now gave evidence. He had seen the horse, which walked fairly well, but trotted lame. It was very old and worn, but was well kept. Mr. McKillop, he said, had been unfit for work, and fined the doctor £25, with 47 9s. costs, including Prof. McQueen's fee.

**A WEST-END SCANDAL.** DR. McKillop, of Grosvenor-st., Blackheath, appears at an adjourned summons at Greenwich, for causing a horse to be cruelly worked in an unfit state. Mr. Colam prosecuted, and Mr. Griffiths defended. The horse was drawn by the doctor's carriage when it was stopped by an officer of the S.P.C.A. When before the court last week one veterinary surgeon said the animal was working in pain and another expressed a contrary opinion. The matter was then referred to Prof. McQueen, fellow of the College of Veterinary Surgeons, who now gave evidence. He had seen the horse, which walked fairly well, but trotted lame. It was very old and worn, but was well kept. Mr. McKillop, he said, had been unfit for work, and fined the doctor £25, with 47 9s. costs, including Prof. McQueen's fee.

**THE DOCTOR'S STORY.** Dr. McKillop stated that he was called to see Miss Condon at half-past 11 on Monday morning. At first she refused to let him see anything, except that she had been very ill during the night. When he informed her that a child had been found on the roof she replied, "Well, if you know all about it, why do you ask me?" Witness then asked her if she had thrown the child over the window, and she answered, "Yes." Witness asked her, and therefore, was a 7 months child, and therefore, could have lived. The skull was fractured, and there was an effusion of blood under the scalp. Pressed by the coroner, the doctor said it was absolutely impossible to say whether the child was born alive. The coroner remarked that it was a very painful case, and pointed out that the medical evidence was not strong enough to support a criminal charge, and the jury returned a verdict of found dead, there not being sufficient evidence to show that deceased had a separate existence.

Sir Walter de Souza will preside at a smoking concert, held under the auspices of the Postmen's Federation, at Westminster Town Hall on Friday.

At a meeting of subscribers to the fund for perpetuating the memory in Windsor of the late Sgt. O. McClokie, who fell fighting on Montenegro Hill, in the Matabele campaign of last year, it was announced that sufficient money had been raised to permanently endow a bed in the Windsor and Eton Royal Infirmary.

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divisions and it may be taken that every one of them, with their friends, voted the representatives of the Government, which had so unfairly with capital against labour. The Government, for permitting a stupid and suicidal policy, deserve the rebuff they have received. In addition to this cause for the alienation of the Unionist votes, but of far less importance, was the injudicious selection of candidates. At Romford Mr. Balfour had absolutely no claims to put upon the constituency, while Mr. Raphael, was a well-known and well-liked local man. Mr. Balfour, at Walthamstow, was not much of a stranger as Mr. Sinclair. In the view of the large Labour electorate, which might naturally be expected to support a Labour leader like Mr. Woods, the Unionist candidate ought to have had other qualifications.

besides the length of his  
We have no doubt as to the  
ation of this sort of choice in  
majority of cases where it is  
It suits the plans of the local  
leaders. To have secured a  
late who is prepared to take all  
anxiety off their minds is,  
doubt, an excellent thing in itself.  
here there is a good local candi-  
date of moderate means, who will  
take to bear a fair amount of  
use, he ought to be chosen.

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## THE VOLUNTEERS YESTERDAY.

parties was during 1896 by members of  
first London Ride were distributed at  
dinner, breakfast, and luncheon being  
by the annual dinner, at which Capt.  
Morris presided. The annual report  
that at the end of the fiscal year  
was 68, of whom 10 were efficient,  
making the figure of merit was 52.19,  
a volley firing 50.00. The principal  
of prizes (presented by Col. Hancock)

C. Stevens, Ptes. H. Price, W. Stevens, Shipman, Sergt. R. G. Price, Band-sergt. C. Granger, Col.-sergt. J. Rankin, and Ptes. O'Connell and Hanks were assigned to the headquarters of the 7th Middlesex (on Scottish) Rifles at Westminster the day won by members of the company dinner took place at the annual company dinner which Capt. W. Grant presided. The report showed that at the end of the financial year the enrolled strength was 86, of whom 38, of which 25 were British and the figure of merit was 64, Pte. D. Jennings being the best shot, with a grand total of 132 points. The sergeants were—Sergts. S. F. Hindley, Sergt. J. G. Jones, Corp. Gladstone, Sergt. A. H. Miles, Sgt. Hinks, Pte. Haylings, and Col.-sergt. Miles.

Barton's Hotel, the sergeants of the V.B. Royal Fusiliers gave a Cinderella party. Members of K Co. 2nd Middlesex, at Newell Town Hall, and the 7th Middlesex, at Newell Town Hall, both towns, gave similar entertainments, all of which were well attended.

The headquarters of the 4th V.B. East Kent, at Remington, regimental concert given, under the direction of Sergt. G. B. Kingston, Capt. G. F. Collyer presiding. It was announced that the committee had arranged for an entertainment

concert upon an extensive scale, and take place in the drill hall on the 29th inst. The members of the corps are:

In the Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Walk, the annual dinner and distribution of prizes took place on the 28th inst. at the London Rifles target place, Lieut. Enoch Colvin chairman and Col.-sergt. Clowd vice-chairman. The annual report showed that the company had been successful in their efficient members, and the company tied B and L Cos. for first efficiency prize. The leading winners were—In Series A, Capt. Hargrave, the company; In Series B, Pte. Burgin. The aggregate results were as follows: In Series A by Pte. T. G. Hargrave, and in Series B by Pte. T. G. Hargrave. The company was also successful in the inter-company competition with songs, recitations, and instrumental contributions.

The Champion, Aldergate-st., Capt. Hargrave, who was the champion of the No. 11 of the City of London Artillery, and a chess-chess entertainment was given under the direction of Sergt. G. T. Spink. The principal prizes in this company are: Corporal Lancaster, Bomb. Lockwood, Garrodley, Bomb. Palmer, Gren. Wright and Bomb. Spink. The trap given was a very good one. The trap given was a very good one.

Members of the No. 100 Position Battery 1st Army Artillery held their annual dinner at the City Arms Restaurant, Capt. S. H. Hunter presiding, supported by Col. Garrett (honorary), and Lieut.-Col. Palmer (honorary). The guests included Lieut.-Col. Palmer (3rd V.B. Regiment), and other officers. The vice-chairman was Battery Sergt.-maj. Farnie, and the hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. H. H. who presided over all the arrangements in a most efficient manner.

At the Coach and Horses Hotel, Strand, the members of the 100th members of F Co. the 10th Middlesex (London Rifles) Rifles were distributed, the ceremony taking place between parts I. and II. of the annual dinner, which was presided over by the able Captain and Hon.-maj. (Carrell) presiding, the vice-chairman being Col.-sergt. Oppinger, and several officers of the battalion. Lieut. Yeatley made an earnest appeal to the non-commissioned officers and men of the company to make increases of efficiency, and in other ways to support and encourage the officers. Last year the efficient strength was 333. The leading winners of prizes for efficiency were Sergeant Major, and the company class-rising, with a total of 132 points.

Corpl. Baker, Col.-sergt. Oppinger, Platoon

A novel "surprise" parade of the 19th Middlesex (Paddington) Rifles took place at the headquarters in Grosvenor Road. On Friday morning, June 10, 1932, every member of the corps received an order, marked "Urgent," to parade at 4.30 p.m. yesterday in marching order and full dress uniform. The order was signed by the commandant of Col. Dalziel M.P., commanding officer. Upon the parade being given the regiment proceeded for a route march to St. Vincent's Palace, where they were met by His Majesty King George VI, accompanied by the Governor-General, Sir John Gort, and other members of the royal party. The 19th Middlesex was commanded by the N. London Brigade with Lieut. Sutton, his brigade-major, witnessed the assembly.

At the head-quarters of the volunteer Militia Staff Corps the annual distribution of prizes took place, the ceremony being performed by the Countess of Albemarle, in the presence of the Lord Mayor, Sir James Duff, Bart., Earl of Albemarle, Surg.-maj. Gen. O'Dwyer, Principal Medical Officer Home District, Surg.-maj. Stephenson, of the 1st

opened by Surg. Lieut.-col. Commandant Morton, who detailed the work carried out during the year. The present strength of the corps was 456, but before his retirement (which would shortly take place) he hoped the strength would reach 500 of all ranks. The Capitation Grant earned amounted to £1,000, as against £920 in 1903. At the conclusion of his address the prizes were presented, the leading winners being Corporal Wright, Lance-corporal Hannaford, Ptes. Jackson and Powell, Sergeants Woodcock and Gentry, Staff-sergeant Bourne, sergeant Baynes, Ptes. Private Lance-corporal Dunlop, and Ptes. Addison, and Adams. The vote of thanks was accorded to the Commandant of Alibonrie.















## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The deaths registered last week in 25 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 20.6 per 1,000 of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 10,992,324 persons in the middle of this year.

In London 2,715 births and 1,702 deaths were registered last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births last week were 19, and the deaths 304, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last 10 years.

The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been 18.5, 18.0, and 18.1 in the preceding 3 weeks, further rose last week to 19.9.

During the 4 weeks ending 18.6 per 1,000, the death-rate was 1.0 below the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the 10 years 1887-96.

The deaths attributed directly to influenza numbered 7 last week, having been 12, 14, and 7 in the preceding 3 weeks.

Different forms of violence caused 15 deaths, concerning all but 5 of which inquiries were held.

In Greater London, 3,686 births and 2,154 deaths were registered last week, corresponding to annual rates of 30.6 and 17.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

About a quarter of the people of Paris live in apartments.

London has papers enough to fill all the houses in Brighton.

The death is reported at Glenary of Mrs. C. D. Clendinning, the county Antrim centurion, at the age of 80.

A man was found, apparently in a dazed condition, and he expired shortly after. A paper in his possession bore the name of Gunn.

As William Smith was engaged in getting mail in Messrs. Doulton's clay pits at Saltwell, near Dudley, he was knocked down by a fall of clay and killed.

The Russian Minister of the Interior is considering the question of granting to Jewish landed proprietors certain rights for the acquisition of land.

The Sanborn District Council have decided to purchase Hill House and grounds, Ewell-rd., Sutton, at a cost of £2,600, for the erection of council schools.

St. John Wilson, a widow, of Grange-rd., Plaitow, was put in a cab to be taken to Plaitow Workhouse, but on arriving at the gates she was found to be extinct.

The Porte has decided to change the whole of the personnel of the Ottoman Legation at Athens. The news has created a good deal of comment in diplomatic circles.

The German Government intends to send a commission of experts to Bombay to study the bubonic plague. It is reported that Dr. Koch will act as head of the commission.

Noblemen in scores were created by Christopher, who ruled as Emperor of Hayti from 1811 to 1820. Among the titles conferred were those of the Duke of Marmalade, the Count of Lemonade, and the Earl of Brandy.

The Car has assigned a sum of £5,000 for the erection of residential quarters for the female students at the St. Petersburg Medical Institute for Women.

The Prince of Wales has intimated his intention to formally open early in May next the south wing of the new Medical School buildings at Guy's Hospital, which will shortly be ready for occupation.

Dr. Nansen will be invited by the Royal Geographical Society to lecture there in April on his Arctic voyage. Should he accept, he would go to Rome from Paris, and would be officially welcomed.

Mme. Faure and Mlle. Faure are connected to their roles with influenza. The dinner which should have been given at the Elysee on Thursday has consequently been postponed for a week.

According to later particulars, the Desvignes who raised the post at Ombleville merely exchanged shots with the friends, and both parties then retired. The friends afterwards re-occupied Ombleville.

At the house of a man named Robert Gillies was found in the snow above Mountcain Glen, near Greenock. A gun was found near him, and it is thought that he had been poaching. Death was due to exposure.

Fresh reports have been received to the effect that the Pope's health gives cause for alarm, and that the carriages ready to leave for Rome. There is no direct confirmation of these reports.

A man named Connellan has been arrested for the murder of a man named O'Boyle, near Cross Molina. It is alleged that Connellan struck O'Boyle on the head with a butcher's cleaver, killing him instantly.

The Prime Minister declared at Tunbridge Wells that for Churchmen there was nothing more important than that they should succeed in securing for the Christian children such religious education as would give a fair guarantee that they would understand the true principles of religious life.

The members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers on the "Tyne, Wear, and Tees, and also at Hartlepool, have sent in a demand to the employers for an advance of 2s. 6d. per week on time rates and 10 per cent. on prices, with certain alternatives in regard to the payment of overtime.

In consequence of the new Truck Act, prices in the linen mill in the Armagh district have been reduced, but a bonus is to be given which—so the masters say—"if the work is well done" will bring prices up to the old standard. The weavers argue that this means that 50 per cent. of their wages will be at the mercy of their employers.

A butcher's shop collapsed without any warning in New Kent-rd. The shop, which was situated in Kent-rd., was down with a tremendous crash, leaving only a pair of gates standing. The butcher, Mr. Beadle, and a lad were in the place at the time, but fortunately they were not much injured beyond the shock and a few bruises.

There were 9 cases of suicide in South London last week, and 6 of these were women. There were 25 suicides in the metropolis for the same period, which is the heaviest weekly total in the month of January for some years. Since Christmas a number of deaths in London attributed

able to this cause reached over 100, of which 60 were women.

The Canadian Parliament will meet on March 11.

The Fifeshire miners have voted against a strike.

Baron von Kossiek, the Austro-Hungarian Minister at Athens, has died of syncope.

The visit of the Emperor Francis Joseph to St. Petersburg has been fixed for April 27.

Principal Owen contradicts the statement that he has been appointed Bishop of St. David's.

The remains of the old Chain Pier at Brighton were this week sold as "boulders of timber and firewood."

Mrs. Macdonald, of Aberdeen, has given birth to triplets—all boys. The mother and 3 boys are doing well.

Mr. J. B. Wilson, of Iowa, has accepted the post of Minister of Agriculture in Mr. McKinley's Cabinet.

Baron de Soubeyran, a former deputy and well-known financier, died in Paris this week after a long illness, aged 67.

In consequence of the continued disturbances at Christ's, the University has been closed until further orders.

Mr. H. G. Smallman has been elected chairman of the City Commissioners of Sewers, in opposition to Mr. Malt-house.

Mr. R. Edwards, of Leicester-rd., Craven Hill, last survivor of the jury which acquitted the Tichborne trial, has just died.

Ten thousand pounds worth of pearls were in 3 years' time during the last century taken from muscels in the Tay near Perth.

Mr. W. D. Cruddas, M.P. for Newcastle, who has been ill for some time, has died.

His medical attendants entertain a grave view of his case.

The failure is announced of an important lead company having its head offices in Pittsburgh. The liabilities, according to a Reuters telegram, are estimated at £400,000.

At the Foreign and Colonial Section of the Society of Arts, Sir C. Dilke, read a paper on the progress of the British Colonial Empire during the past 60 years of her Majesty's reign.

As Robert Scott was engaged shunting wagons at Sighthill goods station, Springfield, he was accidentally run over and killed by a van attached to some wagons.

The committee of the Congregational Union of England and Wales have unanimously passed a resolution strongly condemning the Education Bill of the Government.

Chief-insp. Numan, W. Division of the Metropolitan Police, this week retired from the force, after 27 years' service, on a pension of £150 per annum.

It is stated on good authority that President Cleveland is determined to veto the bill excluding from the United States emigrants who are unable to read or write.

The reading given by Mr. Bancroft at the Reading Hospital College of Dr. Keble's "Christmas Carol" resulted in a net profit of £150, which will be given to the hospital fund.

A folding bed, occupied by 2 sisters, Eliza and Kate Croneworth, in Pittsburgh, closed upon them, and with almost fatal results. When rescued, one was unconscious, and the other in a state of agony and despair.

At the meeting of the Carnarvon Town Council it was notified that Sir John Puleston, Constable of Carnarvon Castle, was prepared to give a site, within the walls of the castle, for the offices of the University of Wales.

In the House of Commons it is announced that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has appointed the Right Hon. Sir G. O. Trevelyan, Bart., to be Steward and Bailiff of the Manor of Northstead.

The health of the Marchioness of Salisbury has greatly improved since her arrival at Heath. When rescued, one was unconscious, and the other in a state of agony and despair.

Juan Solana, an Argentine, was remanded at Newcastle-on-Tyne for his recent murderous assault on the Argentine Consul, who is still weak from loss of blood and unable to attend the court.

It is announced that the Russian Senate has confirmed the granting of the right of domicile in all places of the empire to Israelites who have concluded their studies in higher schools and obtained an academic degree.

The Guildford Corporation was summoned by the Thames Conservancy Board to discontinue the River Way by being taken for discontinuance, the case was adjourned for 3 months.

On the arrival of a Crystal Palace train at Victoria Station, the guard noticed a suspicious-looking parcel under the seat of a first-class carriage. An examination showed that it contained the dead body of a female child of recent birth.

Dorchester Municipal Council has unanimously decided to present the freed M.P. of the borough to Col. Brymer, M.P., who for 12 years represented the borough in Parliament, and has for several years been member for South Dorset.

The returns of the receipts and disbursements of the Duchy of Cornwall for the year ending Dec. 31, 1896, shows that the total receipts for the year 1896 amounted to £28,517, while the total disbursements were £24,512, showing a balance of £4,005.

A boiler explosion at the large engineering works of Messrs. Mountford, Mill-street, Manchester, wrecked four of the most extensive buildings. Paris of the boiler was blown over 500 yards, and another piece was driven through the wall of adjacent works 80 ft. from the ground.

It is supposed that the earliest lamps were made of the skulls of animals, in which fat was burned; afterwards shells were used. The invention of lamps, like so many other inventions of present day, has been attributed to the Chinese.

The 2 biggest fire engines in the world are in Liverpool. These are the most powerful fire engines known, throwing 1,600 gallons of water a minute, and a jet 140 ft. high. The force with which the water is ejected from them may be estimated from the fact that the jet is "warranted to kill a man at 350 ft."

The average height of clouds above the earth is between one and two miles, but higher electrified ones are much fewer. Lightning clouds are frequently not more than 700 yards from the ground, and often they are much closer. Some clouds are about 20 square miles in surface, and about a

mile in thickness, while others are only a few yards or feet.

It is estimated that about 250,000,000 bricks are used monthly in Great Britain.

A dealer in artificial limbs estimates that 300,000 Englishmen have lost one or both legs.

The biggest man in Canada is Leonard Whittow, of Brighton, Ontario. Ten years ago he weighed 150 lb.; now he weighs 495 lb.

Upon the conclusion of the sale of the Zechlin collection of arms and armour at Christie's, it was found that £22 lots had realised £16,324.

So well trained are a pair of horses owned by a farmer in Lancashire county, Pa., that they pull a narrow regularly across a field, from morning until night without a driver.

There are few (the testing of the business manufactured by Krupp has shaken the foundations of most of the houses, and keeps glaziers busy).

The first battle of flowers at Monte Carlo is fixed for Feb. 16, and the festivities connected with the arrival of Carnival XCVI. will take place on the following Thursday.

Are occurred this week in the Fairfield shipbuilding yard, Govan, Glasgow. The joiners' shop and tracing shop were destroyed, the damage being considerable.

The transfer of the Rhonda and Swansea Bay Rly. to the G.W.C. is receiving serious attention in industrial quarters. The former commercial line was established 15 years.

The latest piece of stage realism comes from Budapest, where, whilst a "Rose valet" is being danced on the stage, the perfumes of "white roses" pervade the whole house.

At Bucks Assizes, Miss Combs, indicted for the wilful murder of her husband at Datchet, was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to 7 years' penal servitude.

The example of a philanthropist, at Athens, Ga., should be imitated by other wealthy gentlemen. He has built several houses for the poor, and has been occupying free of rent.

There is now a bar at the entrance of the smoking-room in the House of Commons, with a barmaid duly presiding. The "Saturday Review" says that this does not make the House look more than ever like a railway station.

The latest victim to the cycling craze is Justice Hodgson, who was run into in Melbourne. Both riders fell heavily, and the judge's left leg was broken, while his ankle was dislocated.

The Viceroy of India has intimated to Mr. F. E. Pirbright that the Government will afford facilities for the placement of Buisson bache for the treatment of hystrophics in the Government hospitals and dispensaries.

The organist at a Cardiff church found several of the notes soundless. An examination revealed the fact that no fewer than 6 birds, including a robin, had built their nests in the pipes.

Mrs. Nield, widow of the vicar of Mill End, Rickmansworth, who died a few weeks since, was this week attending the funeral of Miss Bryson, the organist, when she suddenly expired in the parish church.

A serious explosion occurred during some blasting operations at New Hartley Colliery, North Wales. One man killed outright, his body being shattered, and another was badly injured that his life is despaired of.

The Brooklyn police do not dare to interfere with a man in Flatbush-av. who conspicuously displays a huge sign bearing these words: "Dealer in Green Goods." His business is the sale of vegetable pipes.

The Octagon Chapel at Bath, of which Archbishop Magee was for some years the incumbent, has ceased to exist as a place of worship, and is to be converted into a furniture store, all the fittings having been sold by auction.

The Paddington Board of Guardians has asked the vestry to protest strongly against the proposed W. Suburban Rly. on account of the annoyance that would be caused by the trains to the inmates of the workhouse and infirmary.

The dead body of Herr Haiduschna, a bookkeeper in the employ of a firm of Vienna goldsmiths, has been found in the Semmering. He left Vienna to climb the Rax Peak by the Langrabner. Neither friend nor guide accompanied him.

Angus Macdonald, a Govan joiner, fell from the window of his dwelling-house and sustained injuries of so serious a character that he died instantly. His skull was fractured, several of his ribs were broken, and both his feet were dislocated.

Croydon Town Council has decided to present Sir P. T. Edridge, deputy mayor, with the honorary freedom of the borough, in recognition of the eminent services he had rendered to the town as mayor and in other capacities.

Thomas Cole, a platelayer on the Midland Rly., was found lying dead in the 4-foot way of the line near Leagrave. His head was cut completely in two, one-half of which could not be found for several hours. At an inquest a verdict of accidental death was returned.

Towards the end of the month a New York clubman was found dead in the Semmering. He left Vienna to climb the Rax Peak by the Langrabner. Neither friend nor guide accompanied him.

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## "IN THE SWIM."

BY A CITY SHARK.

Business of a speculative character remains in a semi-dormant condition. At the same time, the underlying tone is thoroughly wholesome; all authorities agree that the account, whether in one department or another, is exceptionally healthy. How comes it, then, that there is so little buying and selling? That is easily accounted for: prices are full in all departments, and buyers except the gold miners, and buyers consequently look on the chance of "set back." This is almost always the case at times of inflation, and in most instances the evil works its own cure by encouraging the "bears" to knock down quotations. But just at present, with the probability of a prolonged period of cheap money, the price of gold is high, and the market is full of buyers. The market is full of buyers, and the market is full of buyers.

There are, however, a few openings still left for courageous punters. Glit-eed securities are likely to advance a little further, while Hull and Barnsley, Chatham 2nd Preference, and South-eastern Deferred are still well worth the attention of the speculative investor.

Midland dividends being a bit better than the market had anticipated, while Great Western have fallen for the opposite reason. Brewery stocks are likely, I think, to fall a bit, owing to the raw materials which they manipulate have risen largely.

On the whole, the working classes are, as a rule, fully employed, at good wages, and that state of things always increases popular thirst.

South African goods show little change on balance, but they have been somewhat depressed by political rumours from the Transvaal. That an improvement will shortly place a few more of these goods on the shelves, and when they do, Bonanza, New Prim, and Johannesburg Consols will soar right away. At current quotations, all of these are very cheap and promising goods, but they should be bought for delivery, not for the account. There is not a word of truth in the story about the "shutting down" of the Transvaal mine.

Consols gave way to 3-16, but Indian 3 per cent. improved. Foreign Securities heavy. Home Securities heavy. Many shares showing declines. The market is full of buyers, and the market is full of buyers.

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## DEVON WILL SUE.

A REMARKABLE STORY TOLD BY SIR EDWARD CLARKE.

IN THE PROBATE DIVISION YESTERDAY, Justice Barnes and a special jury heard the case of Sir Edward Clarke, who died on Dec. 7, 1895, leaving property amounting to £120,000. According to the will, the



By LARRY LYNX.

**HEART OF MY HEART.**

A SENSATIONAL NEW SERIAL  
FROM THE PEN OF THE WELL-KNOWN  
AUTHOR OF "TRACKED," "LADY CHATTER,"  
"THE BIRD OF THE WORLD," &c.

**I ENTER** the Museum, and make straight for the  
I wander round, and at length find a row of seats  
I take possession of one.  
In a few minutes my eyes are brought to me,  
and I am seized by my researches.  
And there, all at once, a strange sensation creeps  
over me.  
A cold wind sweeps by, a shiver steals all through  
me.  
And now only in a rare coldness, but a dampness  
also, a clammy sweat as of freshly turned earth.  
It is a strange experience which I do  
not in the least understand.  
The door opens again. But once, and, though  
my left side feels a little numb—a little straggled,  
and though queer thoughts of death and graves  
whisper me to think no more, and think no more  
of it, until something compels me to lift my head,  
and look up.  
With a start, I see that a girl has taken the seat  
next but one to mine, and in regarding me earnestly,  
she has no power, she looks before her, but her  
right hand rests upon the table, and her fingers are  
as white as though holding a gun.  
Her face is perfectly colourless, like the face of  
the dead.  
Her eyes, which are blue as a sapphire, and  
heavily fringed, are more beautiful than words can  
tell, and yet their expression seems so pained—  
so conscious as she is, with something about her  
smile, her hair, her dress, her hands, her feet,  
her whole person, of closed shutters, and folded  
hands, she is certainly the most perfectly beautiful  
girl I have ever seen.  
And with her strange, dark, unsophisticated eyes,  
she looks at me as if she were trying to pierce  
into my soul, and as I gaze, the best fingers shift more  
though without noise, and hold no longer, and  
through those still is no paper beneath her hand.  
Are you ill? I say. Can I get you anything?  
She looks at me in the same strange, solemn  
way, and says nothing, and then she rises, and the  
little white empty hand still moves along the table  
restlessly.  
I rise again.  
Do let me help you. I am sure you are ill, or I  
may be my imagination, but it seems to me  
that you are ill. She looks at me, and then she  
takes the lips quiver, that her gloom sinks  
under the table, then my face, as the piano smoothes  
it, and she holds me, at last, as if she were  
trying to pierce into my soul.  
That restless little hand working so aimlessly  
along the table, that smile so full of pain—  
"Is she mad?" Does she think she is writing  
though she holds no pen? Does she  
longer than I do? A momentary glimpse of her  
beautiful though she is, disturbs me; and again  
the strange, dark, unsophisticated eyes, and again  
the right hand from behind the table, and again  
the shiver from head to foot, across the nostrils of  
turned earth comes over me, and I think of  
deserted room, of white sickly-scented flowers,  
again I wonder —  
Then glance down to where the girl sits—she is  
no longer there!

FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THIS  
EXCITING STORY SEE  
**"SOMETHING TO READ,"**  
No. XL.

PUBLISHED ON  
**TUESDAY NEXT, Feb. 9,**  
which Number will also contain the  
**GRAND EXTRA VALENTINE**  
SUPPLEMENT.  
A 16-PAGE COMPLETE STORY OF THRILLING  
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ROAD, BATTERSEA; NORTH-STREET, GUI-  
LFORD; 9, BERNARD-STREET, SOUTHAMPTON;  
and elsewhere.

**THE SENSATIONAL NEW SERIAL**  
FROM THE PEN OF THE WELL-KNOWN  
AUTHOR OF "THE MONKED" "LADY CHATTER,"  
"THE BIRD OF THE WORLD," &c.

**I ENTER** the Museum, and make straight for the  
reading-room.  
I find a room, and at length find a row of seats  
unoccupied.  
I take a succession of ones.  
I take a succession of my books are brought to me,  
and I am soon deep in my researches.  
And all at once a cold, shivering sensation creeps  
over me.  
A cold wind sweeps by, a shiver steals all through  
my frame.  
And not only there is a coldness, but a dampness  
also.  
It is a strange, uneasy experience, which I do  
not understand.  
The cold air sweeps by me but once, and though  
my left side feels a little numb—a little strange,  
and though words are more and more gathered  
enter my mind, I go on writing, and think no more  
of the strange feeling which has come over me.  
I look round, and find a young man, with a pale  
and look round.

With a start, I see that a girl has taken the seat  
next to me, and she is regarding me earnestly.  
She has no paper, so books before her, but her  
right hand rests on the table, and her fingers are  
rest as though holding a pen.  
Her face is perfectly colourless, like the face of  
the dead.

My eyes, which are blue as a sapphire, and  
heavily shadowed, lower, and I stare at her with  
astonishment, and yet there is something strange about  
her.  
Conscious as she is, of my gaze, she holds her  
which makes a little of death, of white, sickly-  
smelling flowers, of closed shutters, and faded  
lands, she is certain that she is looking at a beautiful  
girl I have ever seen.

Then the girl looks dark, unfathomable, grey,  
also is looking at me, looking. It seems to me, presently,  
and as I gaze, the best figures still more and  
the other strange, lovely, and sad, and terrible  
though there still is a little more beneath her face.  
I think of her as "Queen I," and I think of her  
she does not speak.

She looks at me still in the same strange, silent  
which holds her so long, and I think of her, the  
little white empty hand still moves along the table.

I speak again—  
"I do not help you. I am sure you are ill, or in  
trouble."

It may be my imagination, but it seems to me  
that the girl looks at me with a strange, cold  
little, that the lips curve, that her glance seems  
and the table, that my face, as the white  
which holds her so long, and I think of her, the  
This restless little hand working so aimlessly  
which holds her so long, and I think of her, the  
"Is she mad? Does she think she is writing?"  
I thought of her as "Queen I," and I think of her,  
I look away for a moment: the sight of her  
beautiful though she is, disturbs me; and again  
the other strange, lovely, and sad, and terrible  
shiver from head to foot, again the most of  
turned hand comes to my eye, I think of her,  
darkened room, of white sickly-scented flowers,  
again I wonder—  
"The same black to which the girl sits—she is  
no longer there!"

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EXCITING STORY SEE**  
No. 811.

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